

University of New Orleans
ScholarWorks@UNO

University of New Orleans Syllabi

Fall 2015

ENGL 2032

Anne Boyd Rioux
University of New Orleans

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uno.edu/syllabi>

This is an older syllabus and should not be used as a substitute for the syllabus for a current semester course.

Recommended Citation

Rioux, Anne Boyd, "ENGL 2032" (2015). *University of New Orleans Syllabi*. Paper 424.
<https://scholarworks.uno.edu/syllabi/424>

This Syllabus is brought to you for free and open access by ScholarWorks@UNO. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of New Orleans Syllabi by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@UNO. For more information, please contact scholarworks@uno.edu.

AMERICAN LITERATURE, 1865-PRESENT

ENGL 2032, sec. 001

Fall 2015

DR. ANNE BOYD RIOUX

OFFICE: LA 375 E-MAIL: aeboyd@uno.edu

CLASS MEETINGS: T and TH 11:00-12:15 in LA 370

OFFICE HOURS: T and TH 12:30-2:00, W 11-2; and by appointment

DESCRIPTION: This survey of American literature is a course required for English majors but is open to all students. The only prerequisite is that students must have credit for ENGL 1158 before taking this class. Our main objective is to gain a thorough understanding of American literary history since the Civil War. We will examine the major literary movements, including Realism, Regionalism, Naturalism, Modernism, and Postmodernism, as well as issues such as Race Relations, the Harlem Renaissance, and Feminism, focusing on both traditionally canonical and newly reconsidered authors. In addition, we will make a special effort to contextualize our readings and attempt to understand how literature both participates in and responds to the larger culture. You will engage in frequent writing activities that will help you develop your analytic skills, which are necessary to succeed in today's competitive job market and to be an active member of our culturally diverse society.

REQUIRED TEXTS: I have ordered the following texts through the UNO Bookstore. You may also purchase them online or at another store.

- *The Norton Anthology of American Literature*, shorter eighth edition, vol. 2, 1865-present. (Make sure you get this one—there are lots of Norton anthologies out there.) ISBN: 978-0-393-91887-8
- *Louisa May Alcott, Little Women*, Norton Critical Edition. ISBN: 978-0-393-97614-4

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- To gain a thorough knowledge of American literary movements and some of the significant authors associated with them.
- To develop critical thinking and writing skills in online posts about reading assignments.
- To digest critical texts and respond to their insights in a final paper.
- To formulate an effective argument about a text in conversation with other critics.
- To demonstrate on the midterm and final a mastery of the material of the course.
- To demonstrate in online posts a deep engagement with the themes of the course.

MOODLE: We will be using Moodle for posting readings, taking quizzes, and posting discussion starters and reflections.

ASSIGNMENTS: See separate handout for details.

Discussion Starters and Reflections (20%—quantity 10% + quality 10%)

Quizzes (10%)

Self-Analysis (10%)

Midterm (15%)

Expanded Reflection (15%)

Portfolio (10%)

Final (20%)

Make sure that you fully understand the written assignments. Seek help if you need it! Come see me during my office hours or make an appointment to discuss the assignments. You are welcome to bring a rough draft of an assignment. Or go to the Writing Center (LA 334; 280-7054; <http://www.uno.edu/lrc/writingcenter/index.aspx>) and go over your draft with a tutor (bring the assignment sheet). If you don't feel comfortable with your ability to complete the written assignments, then do something about it—before they are due! You won't have the opportunity to revise.

GRADING: Letter grades correspond to the following numerical scale: A+=100, A=95, A-=92, A-/B+=90, B+=88, B=85, B-=82, B-/C+=80, C+=78, C=75, C-=72, C-/D+=70, D+=68, D=65, D-=62, F=50.

A grade of "C" indicates competent completion of the assignment. Grades of "A" and "B" indicate varying levels of distinguished performance beyond competency, while grades of "D" and "F" indicate varying levels of failure to address the assignment competently.

ATTENDANCE/LATE WORK: Plan to attend every class meeting and come prepared to discuss reading assignments. You should arrive well ahead of time so that you can sign in. I will not take attendance. You are responsible for recording your presence. Tardiness is extremely disruptive to the class and should only occur in an emergency. **Three absences will be excused during the term.** They may be excused by a doctor or other official, or they may simply be days when you need a break. **(If you are absent for a longer period due to an illness, you must contact me as soon as possible to discuss the situation.)** **For each absence beyond the three allowed, your final grade will drop by 5 points on a 100 point scale.**

Assignments are due at the beginning of the class period designated on the syllabus. **No late work will be accepted without making arrangements with me before the assignment is due.** If you have made the required arrangements, late work will be marked down five points for each day it is overdue. Only **one** late assignment will be allowed, per student.

CLASSROOM CONDUCT: You are expected to maintain the respect and decorum befitting a college course. Thus you should observe the following:

- Arrive early to class and sign the attendance sheet. If you have to arrive late, you should proceed to your seat and sign the roll after class. Do not come to the front of the room to sign in. This is very disruptive.
- Raise your hand when you have something to say. **Please do not interrupt me or your fellow students.** Do not talk over others, raise your voice, or speak belligerently.
- Talking or whispering to others during class is **extremely** disruptive. Share your comments with the whole class or save them until class is over.
- Do not leave class in the middle of the class unless you are ill. Getting up to get a drink or go to the bathroom is not permitted, except in the case of an emergency.
- **Turn off your cell phone** when you are in class. If you need to have it on in case of emergency, please set it to vibrate. Ringing cell phones are an irritation to the whole class.
- **TECHNOLOGY:** Students may use laptops—but only to take notes, not to surf the internet. If a student is distracted by another student's laptop usage, he or she should tell me via email or after class. **Smartphones or tablets should not be used at all. It is extremely distracting for me to see students surfing the internet, checking social media, or texting during our class discussion.**

CONSULTATIONS OUTSIDE OF CLASS: During my office hours (listed above), I will be in my office available to meet with students who drop by. If this time conflicts with your schedule, please feel free to make an appointment with me for another time. E-mail is also an extremely efficient way of contacting me. I check my e-mail frequently. I strongly encourage all students to meet with me to discuss their papers.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY is fundamental to the process of learning and evaluating academic performance. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following: cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records and examinations, falsifying identity, and being an accessory to acts of academic dishonesty. Refer to the UNO Student Code of Conduct for further information. The Code is available online at <http://www.uno.edu/student-affairs-enrollment-management/documents/academic-dishonesty-policy-rev2014.pdf>.

Plagiarism will result in a score of "0" for the assignment. Here is the definition of plagiarism in the Student Code of Conduct: "Plagiarism: The unacknowledged inclusion of someone else's actual words, ideas or data or the paraphrasing of someone else's words, ideas or data as if they were the student's own. All source material must be appropriately identified and cited according to the conventions for acknowledging source material. (Students are responsible for learning these scholarly conventions; disregard of proper citation conventions can be considered plagiarism.)"

Please see Syllabus Attachment Fall 2015 for additional information.

COURSE SCHEDULE

ENGL 2032-001
FALL 2015
Dr. Anne Boyd Rioux

All readings are in the *Norton Anthology of American Literature*, shorter eighth ed., vol. 2, 1865-present, except for *Little Women* (Norton Critical Edition) and where indicated to see Moodle (these will be PDF files for you to print out).

Notes will be posted in Moodle.

D=Discussion starters; **R**=Reflections (See Assignment handout for specifics)

Week 1 (8/20)

TH Introduction to class

Week 2 (8/25-8/27)

T **Notes on Realism**, "Realism and Naturalism," Howells and James, 548-557; and James, *Daisy Miller*, 324-366. D (A-C); R (D-E)

TH **Notes on Late-Nineteenth-Century Women Writers**; Woolson, "Miss Grief" (see Moodle) D (F-H); R (I-Me)

Week 3 (9/1-9/3):

T *Little Women*, Preface and chap. 1-13 D (Mi-R); R (S-Z)

TH *Little Women*, chap. 14-23 D (D-E); R (A-C)

Week 4 (9/8-9/10):

T *Little Women*, chap. 24-37 D (I-Me); R (F-H)

TH *Little Women*, chap. 38-end D (S-Z); R (Mi-R)

Week 5 (9/15-9/17)

T **Notes on Regionalism**; Harte, 297-305; Jewett, 412-420 D (A-C); R (D-E)

TH Freeman, 437-447; Gilman, 484-498 D (F-H); R (I-Me)

Week 6 (9/22-9/24)

T **Notes on Race Relations**; Chopin, "Desiree's Baby," 420-425; Chesnut, 457-473 D (Mi-R); R (S-Z)

TH Sui Sin Far, 521-531; Zitkala-Sa, 639-647 D (D-E); R (A-C)

Week 7 (9/29-10/1):

T **Notes on Naturalism**; "Realism and Naturalism," Norris, Dreiser, and London, 557-566; Crane, "The Open Boat," 581-600; London, 627-638 D (I-Me); R (F-H)

TH Take **MIDTERM**

Week 8 (10/6-10/8):

T **Notes on Modernism**; Frost, 727-742 D (S-Z); R (Mi-R)

TH Pound, 786-790; and Eliot, "Love Song," 819-825 D (A-C); R (D-E); ***Self-Analysis due***

Week 9 (10/13-10/15):

T Hemingway, 1019-1037; Fitzgerald, 963-994 D (F-H); R (I-Me)

TH NO CLASS--OCTOBER BREAK

Week 10 (10/20-10/22):

T **Notes on the Harlem Renaissance**; Hurston, 939-951; Hughes, 1037-1045; 806-808
D (Mi-R); R (S-Z)

TH **Notes on the Southern Renaissance**; Faulkner, 994-1016 D (D-E); R (A-C)

Week 11 (10/27-10/29):

T Welty, "Petrified Man," 1092-1103; O'Connor, 1339-1354; D (I-Me); R (F-H)

TH Williams, 1113-1144 D (S-Z); R (Mi-R)

Week 12 (11/3-11/5):

T Williams 1144-1177 D (A-C); R (D-E)

TH **Notes on Postmodernism**; Ginsberg, 1354-1364; Kerouac, 1313-1323 D (F-H); R (I-Me)

Week 13 (11/10-11/12):

T Lowell, 1298-1308; Brooks, 1309-1313; Lorde, 1474-1477; Pynchon, 1482-1494 D (Mi-R); R (S-Z)

TH NO CLASS—Work on Expanded Reflection

Week 14 (11/17-11/19):

T Roth, 1434-1456; Updike, 1424-1434 D (D-E); R (A-C)

TH Plath, 1416-1424; Sexton, 1373-1379 D (I-Me); R (F-H)

Week 15 (11/24-11/26):

T Kingston, 1506-1516; Walker, 1530-1537 D (S-Z); R (Mi-R)

TH NO CLASS--THANKSGIVING

Week 16 (12/1-12/3):

T Expanded Reflection due; Creative Nonfiction, 1619-1645 D&R extra credit

TH Lahiri, 1649-1665 D&R extra credit

Finals Week: Take Final and turn in Portfolio